

OBSERVATOR

Reasons for Deposing the *French King*: An account of a *High Church* Funeral lately in *London*.

Thursday, July 11th 1706.

Country-Man. **M** After *Observer*, I have two or three promises from you which you must make good, and which will be all Beneficial to the Publick; you are to decide the Point; Which are the best Subjects to the Queen, the High-Church, or the Dissenters; And you are to give me *The Country Mans Speech in the Senate*. These you can keep Sweet as long as you please, much better than the *Seven Wise Masters of the Visiting* can preserve the *Eeef* and *Pork*; Therefore we will let alone these till another Opportunity, and at present I would defer a little more of your Thoughts about *Deposing the French King*: Some People are very *Nervous* to that *Tyrant*, who has shew'd no Mercy to any one, when he has had a Power to be Cruel and a Tormentor.

Ob. *Honest Roger*, I thought the Reasons I had before given on that Head were sufficient, but I am ready to clear up that Point for further Satisfaction. We find by Experience at last, That the Councils of that Prince are unravel'd, his Measures and his Power broken, and that it is in our Power to treat him as we please, I shall not pretend to direct our *Generals* in their Enterprizes; we find 'em forward and able enough to Grapple with the United Force of France and Spain. We'll leave 'em to the Management of their own Business, and consider a little the particular Interest of England, in this Affair.

Pax quaritur Bellos. The End of War is Peace. We don't Fight for Fighting sake. We don't raise Immense Sums for no other purpose.

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pose than to buy fine Lac'd Coats for Our Officers, and to put fine Feathers in their Caps; but that by War we may procure a lasting Peace; make our selves Happy, and leave our Posterity sitting under their own Vines; turning our Sworls into Plough Shares, to have the noise and Din of War intirely hush'd, and that the Noise of War shall no more be heard in our Land.

So that the Subject of our present Discourse is not War but Peace. Now if this Peace be not founded on a Solid Basis; if the Wounds made in the Tranquillity of Europe be not perfectly Cured, but left in danger of a Relapse, we had better never have apply'd the Medicines of War. When a Limb is Cancerated, and never to be reduced by Chirurgical Art, it must be cut off: That Cancerated Limb of Europe, I mean France, is in such a Condition, it must be cut off for good of the whole Body, I mean Europe, and till then we can never expect a Healthy Constitution, but must continue to look with a Languid Aspect.

Therefore we must not knock down the French King as People do Nine-Pins, only to set 'em up again; make a Peace in Armour, as that at Ryswick, so much like a War we hardly knew one from 'rother where the Wound was only skin'd over, and broke out again in three or four years time; but we must make a Perfect Cure a Solid Peace.

Let the Peace of Reswick serve for Englishmen to Steer by in their future Negotiations; Whoever is minded to know how Inglorious that Peace was to the English Nation; let him read the second part of the Duke of Anjou's Succession to the Crown of Spain consider'd and let the present Armament in Europe vouch for its Stability. And whoever considers these things aright, will never desire England should any more be Chous'd with a Peace.

The particular Interest of England in DEPOSING the French King

King will appear under two Heads. *First, The Concern of the Crown,* how much it does relate to Her Majesties Interest as *Queen.* And *Secondly, The Concern of the People;* how much it will tend to the Preservation of their *Liberties,* and the future *Quiet* of the *Kingdom.* And in discussing of which, it will appear, that neither *Eroupe,* the *Queen,* or *People of England* can be safe without it.

The high Dignity of the Queen of England is mightily concern'd in this Point. The French King has many Years foster'd in his Kingdom a *Pretender* to the Crown of *England;* gives him the Title of *King of England,* and maintains him in the Court and Grandure of a Prince. He has spent his *Money,* Employ'd his *Emissaries;* and exerted his *Power* to *Dethrone* the *Queen,* and set up the *Pretender* in her Room, Now, according to the *Laws of External Justice,* He that would *Depose* our *Queen,* ought to be *Deposed* Himself. And till then Her Majesty it not safe; since we have so many *Jacobites. Memorialists, High Flyers,* and *Saucy Jacks,* that are ready to join with them in that Villanious Enterprize.

It seem'd to me a strange thing, that at the *Treaty of Reswick* a *Peace* should be concluded, and one left in the Kingdom of *France* bearing the Title of *King of England,* which look'd as if that *Treaty* had been no more than the *Comedy of the Rehearsal* Reviv'd, and the two *Kings of Erentferd* were brought again on the Stage. When the Usurper, *Oliver Cromwel,* by his single Letter, could oblige the *French King* to send the *Prince of Wales,* and his Brother, the *Duke of York,* Packing out of his *Dominions.*

We must not make a *Peace* and leave a *Pretender* to the *Crown.* And the only way to secure the *Queen* in her *Just Rights,* is to *Depose* Him that would set up another against Her.

In the second Place, *The People of England are much concerned in a solid and lasting Peace* : *The Queens Right and their Property* are to be secured by the same Methods. Now 'twill be hard after so many Millions spent to purchase a *Peace*, and that *Peace* shall only prove a Breathing time for *War*, and we shall only have a Rotation of Misfortune, a *Momentary Lucid Interval of Peace*, for an *Age of War*.

After we have fought so many Battles, got so many Victories, and that at Expence of so much Blood and Treasure, we must conclude a *Peace* upon the most Honourable Terms, and that in regard to *Equity and True Merit*.

I say upon Honourable Terms to our selves as well as to other People. 'Tis Common (and we have seen much of it in our Days) for all the Honour and Glory, all the Success and Conduct in Battle to be attributed to the Commander in Chief, and they to have all the Reward : But I hope we may with Modesty (and if it be possible in this Age of *Self Conceit* to write a Line without Offence) say, never *General* yet did Fight, Win a Battle, and Conquer of himself. Some *Lawrels* are due to our poor *Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, Majors, Captains, Ensigns, Lieutenants, Subalterns* and *Common Soldiers*.

'Tis a very dangerous thing to Canton out the Land of *England* to *Military Men*; but 'tis of great Importance to give 'em the Possessions of the *Disturber of Europe's Peace*; they'll hold their own while they live, and leave a Breed to do the same : For my part I desire no share of the *French Bear-Skin*, but I would desire a Partage of that Empire as a Reward for our *Brave Soldiers*.

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This is no crooked Thought, if we consider with a little foresight, that all our *Soldiers* won't be Kill'd, they won't all end with the *War*; and they must not, in Gratitude of so many good Services, be sent a Starving after the *Peace* is concluded.

Now, upon a *Peace*, leaving the *French* King in Possession of his *Dominions*, his large *Towns* and *Garrisons*, what will you do with the *English* *Soldiers*? To Disband them will be very hard; you can't bring them to *England*, that's directly against our *Constitution*. and acting the parts of *Fools* and *Madmen*; after we have Conquered for others, and put them in Possession of their *Just Rights*, to make our own *Rights* and *Liberties* precarious by a Standing Army; for tho' *Soldiers*, as we find, are Useful Abroad in Times of *War*, yet at Home, in Times of *Peace*, they are but Badges of *Slavery*; and may those *Slave-Makers* Throats be cut by their Hands, who shall ever attempt the Establishment of a Standing Army in *England*.

To me it seems plain we can't make an Honourable *Peace*, but by Seizure and Confiscation of the *French* King's *Dominions*, We must have Part for our Sons of *Mars* to Enjoy; they must have done us Singular Service in the *War*; and they can't come Home with their Swords by their sides, but it will look like an *Invasion* on our *Country*; therefore let 'em stay there, and Plough the Fields they have Conquer'd, and not Live like *Free-booters*, but like *Legal Possessors* of Lands of Inheritance.

Country-man. *Roger*, we'll stop here at present, assuring Mr. *Review* we are Angry with no Body, and that we will argue the matter Fairly and Calmly for the Good of our Country, and that we can walk more Uprightly with our Oaken Towels in our Hands, than with Tallies of Ten Thousand Pounds as a Bribe from a *Faction*. But, *Roger*, what dost thou say? Hast pick'd up any thing of Moment.

Country

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Country-m. I have pick'd up an odd sort of a Story at *London*. I have heard it Reported several ways, but I'll give it you as related by those I thought had the best Intelligence.

A Company of none of the best *Christians* us'd to meet together to Drink a Health to *Sorrel*, the Horse that threw King *William* of Glorious Memory, and dislocated or broke his Collar-Bone: Two of these Men were to go out of Town, Mr. H---- to *Cambridge*, and Mr. D---- to *Oxford*: Mr. D---- had not long been at *Oxford* before he received a Letter desiring his speedy return to *London* to hold up the Pall at the Funeral of Mr. H----; whose Horse upon his Journey had thrown him, of which Fall he Died.

Mr. D---- immediately sets forward for *London*, and stopping at *Maidenhead*, at an Inn where he and Mr. H---- us'd to Drink; Mr. D---- acquainted the Landlord of the House of the Fatal Accident that had befallen his Old Companion, and upon parting said to the Landlord, *What if my Horse should throw me, and Kill me too?* The Landlord desired him, if he had any Apprehensions of that Nature, to tarry and not proceed on his Journey, but he went forward, and his Horse threw him likewise, and the Hilt of his Sword in the Fall striking his Head, Kill'd him also.

About two Years before his Death, this Mr. D--- made his Will; wherein, after he had Demised his Estate, which was considerable, he ordered his Funeral in manner following, That a *Crucifix* should be laid on his Coffin, that 12 *Flambeaux* should burn for a Week together over his Grave, that no Person should be invited to his Funeral but *Church-Men*, *Low-Church-Men* and *Dissenters* excepted. He gave Half a Crown a piece to a certain number of Persons to Drink at the Tavern immediately after his Interment. He left five Pounds to a Minister, Nam'd in his Will, to Preach his Funeral Sermon, and some say the Sermon was to ha' been in *Latin*. Now, Master, wan't this Man a *High-Church-Papist*, like the Author of the *Rehearsal*, and is not he gone to *Purgatory*?

Obj

Obs. I can find no Authority I have to judge of a Mans Future State: We can't determine the Infinite Mercy of GOD thro' *Jesus Christ*. As the Tree falls so must it lye. But, prithee, how was his Will performed?

Country-M. The *Crucifix* was laid on the Coffin in the House, but not carried to the Grave.

Obs. Had I been in *London* at that time, and known of this Funeral, I should have made it a mournful Funeral indeed; I would have got a Warrant and Seiz'd the *Crucifix* as a *Papish Trinket*, and then 'twould have been my own.

Country-M. And then, Master, we would ha' melted it down into Crown-Pieces, and you should ha' paid me the Money you owe me. The *Flambeaux* were not lighted, and the Minister very prudently refus'd to Preach the Funeral Sermon; but you may be sure his Drunken Companions melted down their Half-Crowns at the Tavern.

Obs. Country-Man, If thou art minded to get a true Account of this Story, as to the particulars, thou must go to *Doctor-Commons*, and Mr. *Proctor* will give thee a Copy of that Will for a small matter of Money.

F I N I S.

